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RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

"Promoting the development and efficient use of Montana's renewable natural resources"

In this issue: Renewable Resource Grants and Loans for Governmental Entities • 1994

WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS COMBINED - APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 15

Legislative action re-affirms comittment resource goals.

When Does 1 Plus 1 Make One? When the Legislature passes legislation to combine two resource grant and loan programs. That's what happened in 1993 when the 53rd Montana Legislature passed House Bill 608 to replace the Water Development and Renewable Resource Development programs with a single resource development program. The Legislature's action not only indicated an interest in providing streamlined government but also that they were committed to offering these grants in the future.

The new Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) Program was created by a statute written by Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Bureau Chief and Economist, John Tubbs. A single program was formed to combine the wisdom gained through the administration of the earlier programs. Tubbs' work responded to demands that DNRC make the legislative process, which includes subcommittee review of each grant, less complicated. "We wanted to use this opportunity to not only make the legislative process less complicated but to make the combined program even better than the programs it replaces," explained Tubbs. "One program with one set of application criteria will undoubtedly improve the program. With just one program we will be challenged to continue to serve the diversity of needs that the earlier two programs addressed. We are committed to doing just that," he said.

The Water Development Program and the Renewable Resource Development Program were created by separate pieces of legislation. While both programs could fund water-related projects, only the Renewable Resource Development Program could also fund nonwater-related projects. Funding under both programs was used to conserve, protect, improve, and manage resources that are sustainable by nature. Because of these similarities DNRC administered the programs in conjunction with each other to avoid any duplication and to minimize confusion. "Under the two laws we were forced to evaluate each water-related application with two sets of criteria," Tubbs said. "Though the laws were clear, people unfamiliar with these statutes found it hard to understand why we ranked their projects twice. It was confusing."

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• RRGL Applications Due May 15, 1994
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• Questions Applicants Ask

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The Montana Legislature established the Water Development Program in 1981. Recognizing that clean water was critical to Montana's future, the Legislature responded by providing a program geared toward enhancing the state's water resources. As directed by Title 85, MCA (Montana Code Annotated), grant and loan funds were used to promote and advance the beneficial use of water, and to allow Montanans full use of the state's water. Water storage was a high priority under the Water Development Program because dams capture flows for later use that otherwise would flow through the state unused. In 1991, the legislature reemphasized water storage as a priority.

The Renewable Resource Development Program was created in 1975. This program was founded on the premise that the public could not rely indefinitely on nonrenewable fossil fuels as a state budget revenue source. The Renewable Resource Development Program was progressive--it invested funds generated by the use of depletable resources such as coal, oil, and, gas for the future development of more sustainable, resource-related industries. As specified in Title 90, Chapter 2, Part 1, MCA, the Renewable Resource Development Program provided grants and loans for renewable resource development projects expected to deliver tangible returns and benefits to Montana and its citizens.

Legislation passed in 1993 repeals language in Title 90 and amends Title 85 to create the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan program which will continue to allow the investment of funds for the future development of Montana's water and other renewable resources. In addition to combining these programs House Bill 608 pledged $2.0 million for grants each biennium. Previously, the amount allocated for grants was determined during the legislative session that followed the grant application deadline. DNRC and applicants never knew whether enough funds would be available to fund the proposed projects. "As far as I'm concerned, securing the grant fund was the most important change," said Tubbs. "I saw that there had been a decline over the years in the amount of funding dedicated to these grants. Costs for other state programs funded with these monies were on the incline, the grants were loosing ground. It didn't seem to make sense since it was for these grant and loan programs that the special revenue accounts were originally set up. House Bill 608 amended the law to promise that grants would consistently receive funding."

Information on other natural resource grant and loan programs also is available from DNRC. These programs include DNRC's private grant and loan program for water development, the Reclamation and Development Grant program, and the State Revolving Fund program (this program is administered jointly by DNRC and the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences).

For information on other DNRC natural resource grant or loan programs, write or call the:

DNRC Conservation and
Resource Development Division
P.O. Box 202301
1520 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59620-2301
Phone: (406) 444-6668

RRGL PROGRAM APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 15, 1994

Government Entities Eligible to Apply

Application deadlines are set by administrative rule. Typically, the deadline for grant and loan applications for the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) program falls on May 15 of even-numbered years and successful applicants are notified during the following year. In 1994, May 15 is a Sunday. Therefore, applications must be postmarked to DNRC on or before May 14 or hand delivered by Friday, May 13, 1994. Only state and local government agencies and their subdivisions are eligible to apply for these funds.

Project Eligibility

Water and other renewable resource-related projects are eligible to receive grant funding. Applications must document how the funds spent will enhance the common well-being of Montanans through conservation and the management, better use, development, or protection of a targeted resource.

The purpose of the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan program is to invest in renewable natural resource projects that will preserve for the citizens of Montana the economic and other benefits of the state's natural heritage.

Grants and loans may be made for the purchase, lease, or construction of projects for the conservation, management, use, development, or preservation of the state's water, land,vegetation, fish, wildlife, recreation, and other renewable resources. In the past, eligible projects have included those that, for example, provide research and demonstration of farming practices that reduce agricultural chemical use, improved forest resources, or allowed for better access to recreation opportunities. Other eligible projects have also been those that produce feasibility and design studies for such projects, and facilitate development of plans for the rehabilitation, expansion, or modification of existing projects.

Eligible water-related renewable resource projects include "works" for the purpose of irrigation, flood prevention, or drainage; protection or benefit of fish and wildlife; improvement of public, water-based recreation opportunities; development of hydropower; stock

watering; supplying water for public, domestic, industrial, or other uses; and fire protection. All means of conserving and distributing water, such as reservoirs, dams, diversion canals, waste canals, drainage canals, dikes, lateral ditches and pumping units, mains, pipelines, and waterworks systems for the conservation, storage, distribution, and use of water are considered "works" and qualify for funding considerations.

Watershed projects that protect and improve water quality, like erosion control projects and projects that help plan for the future management and protection of water sources, like groundwater assessment studies have been funded. Projects that are less likely to receive funding include municipal swimming pools and golf course developments, playground equipment, or development of recreational areas for limited public use.

Applicant Eligibility

During its review of applications for Renewable Resource Grant and Loan program funding, DNRC may recommend that grants be awarded to a department, agency, board, commission, or other division of state government, or to a city, county, or other political subdivision or local government body of the state. These entities include: Cities, Towns and Counties; Water and Sewer Districts; Conservation Districts; State Agencies and Universities; Irrigation Districts; Joint Boards of Control; and School Districts.

Funding Limitations

Grants amount to less than $100,000 and typically are awarded for only a portion of a project's total cost. These guidelines have been adopted by DNRC but do not impose a limit on the amount of funding the Montana Legislature may provide to a governmental entity for a project. DNRC, however, limits its grant funding recommendations to a maximum of $100,000 for renewable resource project grant proposals.

The typical grant funding level recommended by DNRC will be further limited to 25 percent of the total estimated project cost or $50,000, whichever is less. This limit is applied to projects which will produce revenues that may be used to secure debt (borrow money), like sewer or water system improvement projects, and that are proposed by applicants authorized to incur debt. If an applicant is not able to incur debt, or if the revenue from the funded project may not be used to secure debt, DNRC may recommend a grant of up to $100,000.

Guidelines have been adopted by DNRC but do not impose a limit on the amount of funding the Montana Legislature may provide.

Loan requests up to $200,000 may be combined with grant requests in a single application. The total recommendation for a grant/loan funding combination will not exceed $200,000. The amount of the loan awarded will be equal to the amount of funds requested but not more than $200,000 less the amount of the grant award. Interest rates for loans supplemented with grant funding are set at the rate the bond is sold and will depend on the bond market conditions at the time of the bond sale.

Water-related projects are eligible for loans of more than $200,000. Loans of several million dollars are not uncommon for water-related projects. Loan requests over $200,000 are considered large loans and may not be combined with grant requests under the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program (grants from other funding sources may be used, however). The Legislature may provide interest subsidies in lieu of grants when additional funding relief is warranted. Interest subsidy recommendations are based on the average income level of the households represented by the applicant. Subsidies usually range from a one to three percent reduction in the interest charged the borrower for up to five years of the loan term. The amount of a large loan is constrained only by the applicant's debt capacity and DNRC's bond authority. Loans of several million dollars are not uncommon. Interest rates for large loans are at the rate the state's bond is sold less any interest subsidy granted by the Legislature. Backing with the proceeds of the state's Coal Severance Tax generally provides a rate that is better than the applicant can obtain through the sale of general obligation, revenue, or other local bonds.

Project Selection

The application period begins in February 1994. DNRC will accept applications postmarked on or before May 14 or hand delivered to DNRC by May 13, 1994. They will be reviewed and ranked by DNRC staff during the following summer and fall.

DNRC reviews the applications for completeness and then evaluates applications to determine technical, financial, economic, and environmental feasibility. Next, DNRC ranks all feasible grant projects. Funding is provided through legislative appropriation and authorization.

Funding Schedule

Grants are funded with interest earnings from the Resource Indemnity Trust Fund. As appropriated funds earned during the biennium become available, contracts are prepared and grants are awarded in the order of legislative priority. Thus, up to 20 of the higher-ranked projects receive funding beginning in July, one year after applications are first submitted. Lower-ranked grant projects are funded during the two fiscal years that follow. For the lowest ranked grant projects, funding may be delayed for up to three years after applications are first submitted.

For the lowest Ranked grant projects, funding may be delayed for up to three years after applications are first submitted.

Projects that obtain loan authority may enter into a bond purchase agreement after July 1, 1995. Funds will become available when the terms of the agreement have been met, a bond has been sold, and the loan closed.

TOP 10 PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1993

- **Malta Irrigation District** - Check structures in Dodson South Canal will be replaced. Wider structures will help prevent ice jams and will allow the district to fill Nelson Reservoir with early spring flows.

- **Richland County** - An engineering study of a high hazard dam, located on private property, will be conducted by the county. The dam currently provides flood protection to Sidney and its airport. The high cost of repairing the dam could cause the owner to breach the dam. The county will work cooperatively with the landowner on behalf of those affected.

- **Montana-DNRC Water Resources Division** - DNRC will conduct a project to gather more accurate precipitation data. Existing precipitation data is less site specific than desired and when used to design spillways in compliance with the Dam Safety Act may result in the construction of spillways that are larger and more costly than needed for the conditions specific to the site.

- **Town of Ryegate** - Ryegate will use a package of funds from various state and federal programs to replace deteriorated cast iron drinking water system distribution lines.

- **Yellowstone County** - A group from Billings will use funds in their effort to improve recreational opportunities along the Yellowstone River.

- **Butte-Silver Bow County** - Butte-Silver Bow recently sited a new landfill and will use funds to evaluate the potential of producing compost with yard waste and wastewater sludge as a means of disposing sewage.

- **Montana Department of State Lands** - Areas of school trust lands that have been harvested for timber revenues but not re-planted will be prepared and planted.

- **Huntley Water and Sewer District** - More reliable water service and better quality water will be provided to the community, funded in part by this program.

- **Ruby Valley Conservation District** - Riparian areas will be improved and water quality restored by fencing riparian areas, providing upland stock watering tanks, and hiring range-riders to mange stock.

- **Town of Winnett** - A community sewer system will be constructed to eliminate septic tank pollution.

TOP 1993 PROJECT CAPTURES WATER FOR MILK RIVER USERS

Water storage, community water, and recreation among top projects

Water storage, community water systems, and recreation were among the top ranked project in 1993. Water storage was re-emphasized as a priority by the Legislature in 1991 so it is not surprising that the first three projects authorized for funding in 1993 are related to water storage. In referring to water storage, program statute does not seek to fund community water storage tanks used to contain water for treatment and distribution. The law refers to the capture of flows, for irrigation and other uses, that would otherwise flow through Montana unused. Flows are typically held by dams in large reservoirs.

PROJECT NEAR MALTA

Agriculture uses 96.5 percent of all water consumed in Montana.

Malta Irrigation District's water storage project was ranked number one for funding by the 1993 Legislature. Irrigation water management is not only crucial for irrigation needs in water-short and drought-impacted areas but also to the development of all of Montana's water resources. Agriculture uses 96.5 percent of all water consumed in Montana. Improvements to irrigation systems, including better water storage capability, will help to preserve Montana's economic welfare. Just adding five percent to our overall water supply, either by using water-conserving techniques or by storing more of the early spring run-off, would free enough water from agriculture uses for all other water uses in Montana.

Montana's farmers were pioneers in the development of our water resources. Early in this century they engineered elaborate water projects to effectively irrigate vast farming lands. These projects relied on miles and miles of canals, laterals and drains to carry and return water. Sometimes on their own, and sometimes in partnership with the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation (BUREC), these intricate systems were carefully surveyed by water user groups. Project channels took years to construct as they were hand dug or trenched by men with horse teams. Irrigation projects constructed at the turn of the century are still used to divert water from rivers to farming land.

A tour of any of these irrigation projects is awe inspiring. Like many community water systems, irrigation projects typically were built to rely on gravity. But not to be compared with community water systems in Montana, the Milk River Project is massive and extends for miles on both sides of the river. The total length of canals, laterals, and drains is incomprehensible. The concept that water flows downhill is simple. But, natural topography is uncooperative and was the limiting factor that dictated design. Main canals were surveyed and constructed to move water from upriver to downstream areas for irrigation. To maintain the elevation needed for gravity flows, dams sometimes had to be constructed. More canals were built to move water from reservoirs. Laterals were built to take water from canals to irrigation sites and drains were added to return run-off water to the lower end of a canal or river.

Malta Irrigation District is one of the district's located along the Milk River. In addition to the typical delivery system of canals, laterals, and drains the Milk River project has several storage reservoirs to hold early snowmelt and rainfall until water is needed later in the irrigation season. These reservoirs include Lake Sherburne, Fresno, and Nelson, with Nelson Reservoir being farthest downstream. If filled to capacity at the beginning of the season these reservoirs hold enough water to meet the demand for summer irrigation water. Additional water is drawn from the rainfall that feeds late season river flows.

Malta Irrigation District includes 42,492 irrigable acres. Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither was Malta's irrigation system. Patiently the district built their system including: canals, laterals, drains, dams, and the reservoir over two decades. Construction spanned from 1909 through 1923. At the top of the system the water that feeds the Malta project is supplied by a diversion from the Milk River to the Dodson South Canal into Nelson Reservoir. During the season, water can be sent down to Malta users from Lake Sherburne or Fresno. Thus Malta Irrigation District water users rely on water stored by other districts in upstream reservoirs. Downstream users, all the way to Glasgow, benefit from water from Lake Sherburne, Fresno, and Nelson Reservoirs.

Malta Irrigation District requested grant funds to replace eight check structures. Funds were needed because during early spring, ice jams block the existing five-foot wide check structures and prevent spring run-off water from flowing freely through Dodson South Canal from the Milk River into Nelson Reservoir. Water is backed-up in the Dodson South Canal, and with nowhere to go, continues to flow down the Milk River to Fort Peck Reservoir and then on to other states. The Malta Irrigation District estimates that these ice jams cause 13,000 acre-feet of water to be lost that could otherwise be captured each year for irrigation.

An acre-foot of water will flood one acre of land one foot deep and is equivalent to 325,851 gallons. In sum, 13,000 acre-feet would add up to more than 4.2 billion gallons of water lost yearly. This much water would satisfy 25 percent of the annual water demand in the City of Billings. From another perspective, an irrigator typically needs between one and one-half and four acre-feet of water for each irrigated acre. Thus, the loss to the Malta Irrigation District and downstream irrigator users would irrigate 8,000 acres per year. Nineteen percent of the irrigated acreage in the district.

Grant funds will be matched by Malta Irrigation District funds to replace the five foot wide check structures with 10 foot wide check structures with automated gates that can better handle ice jams. DNRC's public grant is justified by, and acknowledges the benefit that other Montanan's will gain through the investments supported by Malta Irrigation District's members.

RICHLAND COUNTY PROJECT

Richland County also sought funds for a water storage related project. When constructed 35 years ago, the Lone Tree dams were intended to provide irrigation for adjacent farm land. However, considerable downstream development has occurred and because of this development the dams were classified as high-hazard by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. To be in compliance with the Dam Safety Act, either extensive modification must occur or the dams must be breached and existing flood protection lost.

The dams owner, when faced with the high cost of modifying them, decided that breaching the dams was the most economical alternative. If these dams are removed, many Richland County and City of Sidney residents will loose the flood protection these dams now offer. Because the dams may provide valuable flood protection to these people, modification costs can be shared by the City and County. To establish whether the benefits to residents of Sidney and Richland County merit the cost of the modifications required, a study to include final designs and a cost-benefit analysis will be conducted using grant and community matching funds.

DNRC RE-EVALUATES FLOOD POTENTIAL

The legislature authorized a $100,000.00 grant to fund a project to gather more accurate precipitation data. DNRC will conduct the project.

Existing precipitation data is less site specific than desired and when used to design spillways in compliance with the Federal Dam Safety Act may result in the construction of spillways larger and more costly than needed for the potential extreme conditions specific to the site. The grant will re-assess the data used to project extreme storms. State and federal funds will be used to project extreme storms using more localized precipitation data.

The Federal Dam Safety Act has resulted in a "high-hazard" classification for many Montana dams. Owners of these dams, including the state, local governments, and private land-owners, face a deadline and tremendous costs associated with meeting these new dam safety standards. According to DNRC's Dam Safety Specialist, Gary Fischer, dam owners will be overwhelmed by the cost of meeting these standards. Montana requires dam overflow designs based on the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF), or a fraction thereof. Spillways must be capable of holding some fraction of the overflows that would result during 100 to 10,000 year flood events.

The PMF is an estimation of the upper bound of possible precipitation. It is based more on meteorological theory than on practical rainfall data. Previous studies have shown that practical, frequency based, extreme storms typically are less severe than projected PMF storms. If the magnitude of extreme storms or storms with a chance of occurring every 100 to 10,000 years could be estimated with more precision, spillways could be designed with less capacity. Existing spillways could meet high hazard requirements at much less cost; returns on the investment of grant funds are estimated to be more than 10 fold.

QUESTIONS APPLICANTS FREQUENTLY ASK ABOUT RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANTS AND LOANS

1. Who is eligible to apply for Renewable Resource Grant and Loan program funding?

Only government entities may apply for grant and loan funding under the RRGL program. These may be state government agencies, cities, towns, or counties and their subdivisions, including water, sewer, irrigation, and other legally formed districts within a county.

2. When are applications due?

Application deadlines are set by administrative rule. Typically, applications must be postmarked no later than May 15 or hand-delivered to DNRC by 5:00 p.m. May 15. In 1994, May 15 falls on a Sunday and therefore applications must be postmarked by May 14 or hand-delivered to DNRC by 5:00 p.m. May 13, 1994.

3. How do we apply for an RRGL program grant or loan?

If after reading the material in this bulletin, you believe that you are eligible to apply for funds, and you have a project that is eligible for funding, use the form at the end of this bulletin to request application forms. When your application forms arrive carefully read all of the information provided. Begin to assemble all of the needed information. Use the application form to provide complete information about your project; in the technical, financial, economic, and other narratives, provide all the explanation needed to understand the existing situation and the problem, then describe how the problem will be solved. Discuss the options you have considered and the reason the solution selected is the best approach. Document your project with feasibility or design studies, maps, and/or pictures. Your application must provide thorough documentation of the problem and the solution you propose; you will need to begin to prepare your application right away.

4. Do all projects get funded?

No. Due to limited grant funds, even excellent proposals must be turned away. In 1993, the available grant amount approved by the Legislature totaled approximately $1.8 million. Because of this limited amount, technically sound projects that provide excellent public benefits, meet key program objectives, and prove to be the most urgent make the best candidates to receive DNRC grant funding.

5. What makes an application stand above other applications for similar projects?

Two elements determine the competitiveness of a proposal. First, will the project provide results that offer significant benefits consistent with the law that established the program? For example, the Malta Irrigation District project described on page 5. will secure water resources equal to the resource needed to provide 25 percent of the community water for a city the size of Billings. No less important is the credibility of the application submitted. Second, well prepared applications that define the problem, pose solutions, and document the best approach will rate highly. Applications that guess at the problem and ask for funds to seek a solution are unlikely to be funded.

6. On what criteria do projects compete?

DNRC and a technical review team evaluate each application to ensure that a proposal is economically feasible, that it is located in Montana, and that it is at least technically feasible. Economic feasibility is judged to verify that the total cost of the proposed venture will be exceeded by the anticipated benefits directly attributable to the project. After this initial evaluation, DNRC staff examines an application's merit under six categories.

A. FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY (-200 points): Reviewers will decide whether funds exist to construct, operate, continue, maintain, or complete a project and whether these are identified. If this review uncovers any deficiencies in a proposals

financial feasibility, points will be deducted.

B. ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (-300 points): An environmental checklist will be completed with the assistance and guidance of DNRC's environmental impact team. Adverse environmental impacts will be estimated and could result in a proposals loss of a maximum of 300 points.

C. TECHNICAL MERIT (400 points): Standard engineering principles will be used to evaluate a proposals technical merit. Coordinating agencies must indicate that a project meets the standards necessary to comply with state law. Proposal budgets and timelines must be reasonable and well-documented. Up to 400 points will be awarded to an application under the technical merit category.

D. PUBLIC BENEFIT (400 points): Public benefit criteria are based on Montana statutes. Up to 400 points will be awarded, depending on the degree to which the project meets the purpose of the program.

E. NEED (100 points): Points for public need will be awarded to proposals only if the subtotal of the previous categories is more than average. Points will be awarded to proposals that have not previously received funding from DNRC; that document no other available public funding; that show compliance with court orders to overcome identified health hazards; or that mitigate existing, adverse environmental conditions.

F. URGENCY (100 points): Urgency points will be awarded only to applicants that qualify for consideration under public need. Points may be awarded to proposals that document severe financial need demonstrated by the rates and fees in place for related community systems or services, a high debt-to-bond capacity ratio, or other fiscal problems.

DNRC's ranking system is used to determine the relative merit of each proposal submitted for grant funding. Proposals are recommended for grant funding in the order they are ranked, and the actual funding decisions are made by the Montana Legislature.

7. What amount of other funding is required to match RRGL grant funds?

Match is not required but increases the competitiveness of a less competitive application. All matching funds must be documented; do not pledge matching funds that later cannot be secured because this will result in a penalty and reduced grant award.

8. What restrictions apply to the use of grant funds?

Grant and loan funds must be used for the specific purpose outlined in your application. Minor changes may be made after the Legislature authorizes your grant or loan but DNRC cannot approve significant changes in purpose or approach. All expenditures of both project and matching contributions must be fully documented and must be in compliance with the budget contained in your application, unless modifications are approved in advance.

9. Can one applicant have more than one grant?

Applicants must submit only one application per project. More than one application may be submitted by an applicant for unrelated projects.

10. What funding limits apply to grants and loans?

Grants water-related and other renewable resource projects are typically limited to $100,000 or 25 percent of the project cost, whichever is less. A grant may be combined with a loan for a total grant/loan award of up to $200,000. Water-related projects are eligible for loans of more than $200,000. Loans of several million are not uncommon. Applications over $200,000 are accepted for loans only.

11. Who selects the projects that are funded?

By statute DNRC must provide funding recommendations to the Legislature. These are made based on ranking criteria published in the application guidelines. The Department's Director and the Governor may adjust DNRC's recommendations to reflect current resource policies. The Legislature makes actual awards; these are contained in legislation adopted each regular legislative session.

12. If we are selected for funding, how long do we have before funds must be spent and the project completed?

You will have four years from the time the Legislature makes a funding authorization until the authorization is withdrawn. In that time you must secure all other necessary funding and enter into agreements with DNRC. If an agreement does not exist by January 1999, the Legislature will be advised to revoke your funding.

13. Are loans ranked for funding?

DNRC reviews loan applications for financial and technical feasibility, but they are not ranked; each feasible loan request is recommended for funding.

14. How much money is available for loans?

Loans of up to $200,000 may be paired with grants for water-related and other renewable resource projects. For example, an applicant may receive a $150,000 loan and a $50,000 grant, or a $175,000 loan and a $25,000 grant. For water-related projects loans for more than $200,000 are also available. Loans of several million for water-related projects are not uncommon. Grants from the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan program are not available to supplement funding for projects that seek loans over $200,000.

When the loan program was established, DNRC was given the authority to issue bonds totalling $250 million to finance loans; approximately $125 million is available at this time to fund loan requests.

LET US KNOW . . .

CLIP HERE

If you would like more information about project eligibility and an application, please detach this form and return it to us with your correct address. If a mailing label is affixed to the front of this bulletin and an I.D. number is shown, indicate the mailing number below.

I.D.# _____

Your Name/Title _____

Representing _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ *State* _____ *Zip* _____

DNRC Resource Development Bureau
1520 East Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 202301
Helena, Mt 59620-2301

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